

# COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

MARVIN J. SOUTHARD, D.S.W.  
Director

ROBIN KAY, Ph.D.  
Chief Deputy Director

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Medical Director



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## DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH

<http://dmh.lacounty.gov>

550 SOUTH VERMONT AVENUE, LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90020

Reply To: (213) 738-4601  
Fax: (213) 386-1297

April 21, 2009

TO: Each Supervisor

FROM: Marvin J. Southard, D.S.W.  
Director of Mental Health

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Marvin J. Southard", is written over the printed name and title.

SUBJECT: **NOTIFICATION OF THE USE OF DELEGATED AUTHORITY TO EXECUTE A CONTRACT MERGER OF DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH CONTRACTOR EASTFIELD MING QUONG, INC. WITH FAMILIESFIRST, INC.**

This is to advise your Board that the Department of Mental Health (DMH), under delegated authority granted by your Board on July 29, 2008, approved the merger of Eastfield Ming Quong, Inc. dba EMQ Children and Family Services (EMQ) into FamiliesFirst, Inc., effective January 1, 2009.

EMQ, the disappearing corporation, remained a DMH Legal Entity (LE) contracted agency until December 31, 2008. As a result of the merger, DMH executed a LE Agreement and a subsequent Amendment with FamiliesFirst, Inc., the surviving agency, effective January 1, 2009, whereby FamiliesFirst, Inc. will be responsible for all of EMQ's past, present and future obligations and also any audit exceptions applied at any time against EMQ through any of its Agreements with the County, whether assessed by Federal, State or County audits.

This action was reviewed and approved by both the County Counsel and Chief Executive Office.

### **PURPOSE OF LE AGREEMENT**

The LE Agreement with FamiliesFirst, Inc. facilitated the merger of EMQ into FamiliesFirst, Inc. without any interruption of services.

### **IMPACT ON SERVICES**

The LE Agreement with FamiliesFirst, Inc. allows for the continuance of children's mental health services previously provided by EMQ.

*"To Enrich Lives Through Effective And Caring Service"*

Each Supervisor  
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**FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING**

There is no increase in net County cost.

If you have any questions, or require further information, please contact me at (213) 738-4601, or your staff may contact Murali Iyer at (213) 738-4616.

MJS:LW:RK

c: Chief Executive Officer  
Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors  
County Counsel  
Contracts Development and Administration Division